



# STATE OF IOWA

TERRY E. BRANSTAD, GOVERNOR  
KIM REYNOLDS, LT. GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES  
CHARLES M. PALMER, DIRECTOR

## INFORMATIONAL LETTER NO. 992

**DATE:** March 21, 2011

**TO:** Iowa Medicaid Medical Equipment and Pharmacy Providers

**ISSUED BY:** Iowa Department of Human Services, Iowa Medicaid Enterprise (IME)

**RE:** Rehab Shower/Commode Chairs (E0240)

**EFFECTIVE:** April 1, 2011

A review of coverage for rehab shower/commode chairs revealed that, as a type of commode, this item can be allowed under the regular Medicaid policy. An exception to policy is no longer required when the criteria below are met. Prior authorization is recommended, but not required. Prior approval will ensure in advance of providing the chair that the criteria are met and will expedite processing of the claim. Claims without prior approval will suspend for review prior to payment to ensure that the criteria are met, and will require longer claims processing time.

Documentation submitted with a request for prior authorization, or a claim in the absence of prior approval, must include:

1. A physician prescription
2. An evaluation by a physician, physical therapist or occupational therapist that documents the following:
  - Inability to stand for the duration of a shower, or get in and/or out of a bathtub.
  - The member does not already have a bath chair that meets his or her needs.
  - The member needs upper body support while sitting.
  - The member needs upper body support for toileting.
  - The shower/commode chair will fit into member's bathroom and shower.
  - The need to be tilted back for safety or pressure relief, if a tilt-in-space chair is requested.
3. The manufacturer's suggested retail pricing

Standard bath/shower chairs/benches remain not covered under the regular Medicaid policy.

If you have any questions, please contact the IME Provider Services Unit at 1-800-338-7909, locally 515-256-4609 or by e-mail at [imeproviderservices@dhs.state.ia.us](mailto:imeproviderservices@dhs.state.ia.us).